

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 04878 120706Z
ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 DHA-02 H-01
SCA-01 FAA-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 /039 W
-----113774 130354Z /21

R 120606Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5207
INFO AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CGEN EAIR ET
SUBJECT: DETAINED AMERICAN PILOT

REF (A) ADDIS ABABA 4735 (NOTAL) (B) ADDIS ABABA 4618 (NOTAL)

1. HAPPY ENDING OF CAMPBELL'S CASE NOTWITHSTANDIN, THIS
EMBASSY MUST EMPHASIZE ONCE AGAIN ABSOLUTE ESSENTIALITY
FOR ALL US-REGISTERED AIRCRAFT WISHING TO ENTER ETHIOPIAN
AIR SPACE TO OBTAIN NECESSARY FLIGHT CLEARANCES WELL IN
ADVANCE OF PROPOSED TRANSIT FLIGHTS.

2. IN CAMPBELL'S CASE, LIBYAN-EGYPTIAN HOSTILITIES CAUSED
HIM TO DIVERT FROM ORIGINAL FLIGHT PLAN MALTA-LIBYA-SUDAN-
KENYA AND TO TRAVEL VIA EGYPT, SAUDI ARABIA AND ETHIOPIA.
CAMPBELL OBTAINED LANDING CLEARANCES FOR BOTH EGYPT AND
SAUDI ARABIA, BUT ASSUMED THAT NO CLEARANCES NECESSARY FOR
SIMPLE OVERFLIGHT OF ETHIOPIAN TERRITORY. HE WAS
APPARENTLY QUITE TAKEN ABACK WHEN HE LEARNED FROM
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CONOFF THAT FULL-SCALE WAR TAKING PLACE HERE, AND
THAT HE COULD JUST AS EASILY HAVE BEEN SHOT OUT OF
THE SKY.

3. REALIZE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO PREVENT ALL INCIDENTS
OF THIS KIND, BUT THIS ONE IS NOT FIRST, AND ONE
OF THESE DAYS AN UNAUTHORIZED OVERFLIGHT IS GOING

TO BE FORCED DOWN OR SHOT DOWN. MOREOVER, ETHIOPIANS IN CURRENT WAR POSTURE CAN BE EXPECTED VIEW EVERY STRANGE AIRCRAFT WITH GROWING SUSPICION THAT THEIR PRESENCE HAS SOME SINISTER PURPOSE. FACT THAT WE WERE ABLE GET CAMPBELL OUT OF HERE IN FOUR OR FIVE DAYS MAY NOT BE OUR EXPERIENCE NEXT TIME. IT SEEMS TO US INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT INFORMATION MANUAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS ARE CLEAR AND THAT FAILURE OF EXPERIENCED PILOTS AND/OR THEIR COMPANIES TO OBSERVE THEM IS IRRESPONSIBLE, AND CAN HAVE POTENTIALLY SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES. WE ARE NOT CERTAIN WHAT DEPARTMENT CAN DO TO GET THE WORD ACROSS TO PILOTS AND THEIR COMPANIES, BUT WOULD APPRECIATE ANYTHING THAT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE IT IF INFO POSTS, PARTICULARLY JIDDA AND NAIROBI, COULD WARN LOCAL COMPANIES WITH PRIVATE AMERICAN-REGISTERED OR PILOTED AIRCRAFT THAT ETHIOPIA IS NO PLACE TO BE CARELESS ABOUT FLIGHT CLEARANCES. TIENKEN

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